## IN-HOME BEHAVIORAL SERVICES

**In-Home Behavioral Services** are specialized, clinical outpatient services derived from the principles of learning theory delivered by one or more members of a team consisting of professional and paraprofessional staff, offering a combination of medically necessary Behavior Management Therapy and Behavior Management Monitoring.

Behavior Management Therapy: This service includes a behavioral assessment utilizing direct observation and measurement of behavior to identify contextual factors and motivators, establish operations, antecedent stimuli, positive reinforcers, and other consequences in the youth's environment; development of a highly specific behavior treatment plan utilizing techniques derived from respondent conditioning, operant conditioning, cognitive behavior modification, and/or social learning; supervision and coordination of interventions; and training other interveners to address specific behavioral objectives or performance goals. This service is designed to treat challenging behaviors that interfere with the youth's successful functioning. Behavior management techniques are designed to strengthen, develop, or maintain desirable behaviors or to reduce or eliminate complex, challenging problem behaviors related to the youth's mental health condition(s). The behavior management plan must be compatible with and included in the youth's treatment plan and risk management/safety plan

**Behavior Management Monitoring**: This service includes implementation of the behavior treatment plan, monitoring the youth's behavior, reinforcing implementation of the treatment plan by the parent(s)/guardian(s)/caregiver(s), and reporting to the behavior management therapist on implementation of the treatment plan and progress toward behavioral objectives or performance goals. Phone contact and consultation may be provided as part of the intervention.

For youth engaged in Intensive Care Coordination (ICC), the Behavior management treatment plan is designed to achieve a goal(s) identified in the youth's Individual Care Plan (ICP). The Care Planning Team (CPT) works closely with the youth, parent/guardian/caregiver and/or other individual(s) identified by the family to support adherence to the behavior treatment plan and to sustain the gains made.

## Criteria

## Admission Criteria

**All** of the following criteria are necessary for participation in this level of care:

- 1. A comprehensive behavioral health assessment inclusive of the MA Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) indicates that the youth's clinical condition warrants this service in order to diminish, extinguish, or improve specific behaviors related to the youth's behavioral health condition(s)
- 2. Less intensive behavioral interventions have not been successful in reducing or eliminating the problem behavior(s) or increasing or maintaining desirable behavior(s).
  - a. There has been an attempt to identify situational influences

	or motivators, contextual factors, and controlling variables that may elicit or maintain the youth's problem behavior(s).  b. There has been an attempt to teach/train caregiver(s) the systematic use of reinforcement and punishment (e.g. response cost, time out, grounding) in various settings.  3. Clinical evaluation suggest that the youth's clinical condition, level of functioning, and intensity of need require the establishment of a specific set of rules, rewards and consequences to be applied consistently across home and school settings; and warrant this level of care to successfully support him/her in the home and community.
	4. Required consent is obtained.
Psychosocial, Occupational, and Cultural and Linguistic Factors	These factors may change the risk assessment and should be considered when making level-of-care decisions
Exclusion Criteria	Any one of the following criteria is sufficient for exclusion from this level of care:
	1. The environment in which the service takes place presents a serious safety risk to the behavior management therapist or monitor, alternative community settings are not likely to ameliorate the risk and no other safe venue is available or appropriate for this service.
	2. The youth is at imminent risk to harm self or others, or sufficient impairment exists that requires a more intensive level of care beyond a community-based intervention.
	3. The youth has medical conditions or impairments that would prevent beneficial utilization of services.
	4. Introduction of this service would be duplicative of services that are already in place.
	5. The youth is in a hospital, skilled nursing facility psychiatric residential treatment facility or other residential setting at the time of referral and is not ready for discharge to a family home environment or community setting with community-based supports.
Continued Stay Criteria	All of the following criteria are required for continuing treatment at this level of care:
	The youth's clinical condition(s) continues to warrant In-Home     Behavioral Services in order to maintain him/her in the

## Clinical Criteria

	community and continue progress toward goals established in the behavior management treatment plan.
	2. The youth is actively participating in the plan of care and treatment to the extent possible consistent with his/her condition.
	3. With consent, the parent/guardian/caregiver, and/or natural supports are actively involved in the treatment as required by the behavior management treatment plan, or there are active efforts being made and documented to involve them.
Discharge Criteria	Any one of the following criteria is sufficient for discharge from this level of care:
	1. The youth no longer meets admission criteria for this level of care, or meets criteria for a less or more intensive level of care.
	2. The youth's behavior management treatment plan goals and objectives have been substantially met and continued services are not necessary to prevent the worsening of the youth's behavior.
	3. The youth and/or parent/guardian/caregiver are not engaged in treatment. The lack of engagement is of such a degree that treatment at this level of care becomes ineffective or unsafe, despite multiple, documented attempts to address engagement issues.
	4. The youth is not making progress toward goals and objectives in the behavior management treatment plan, and there is no reasonable expectation of progress at this level of care, nor is it required to maintain the current level of functioning.
	5. Consent for treatment is withdrawn.